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220907Z Dec 05

UNCLAS VIENNA 003938

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: AUSTRIA: NO END-OF-THE-YEAR FUNDS FOR POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE

REFS: A) STATE 225847 B) VIENNA 14

¶1. Embassy conveyed ref A demarche December 21 to senior officials in the Ministry of Health and the MFA, urging the GoA to contribute additional funds for the polio eradication initiative (PEI). Jean-Paul Klein, the MoH's expert on infectious epidemiology, told us that, unfortunately, the GoA does not have any end-of-the-year money for the PEI. He noted Austria had contributed \$200,000 in extraordinary funds in 2004, and "might consider" additional spending for the PEI in the 2007 budget.

McCaw#